INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ERIE	Index No.:/19
ANTHONY SCIOLINO,	Plaintiffs designate ERIE COUNTY as place of trial.
Plaintiff, -against -	The basis of venue is Defendants principal place of business.
DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, and DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL,	Plaintiff's residence address is 5780 Petluma Hill Rd. Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Defendant(s).	SUMMONS
X	
To the above-named defendants:	
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the co serve a copy of your answer or, if the complaint is not served venotice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorneys within 20 desummons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days afthis summons is not personally delivered to you within the Stat	vith this summons, to serve a lays after the service of this ter the service is complete if

A COPY OF THIS SUMMONS WAS FILED WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT, ERIE COUNTY ON _____ IN COMPLIANCE WITH CPLR §§305(a) AND 306(a).

your failure to appear or answer, judgement will be taken for the relief demanded herein.

Dated: New York, New York August 14, 2019

MERSON LAW, PLLC

By: Jordan K. Merson

Attorneys for Plaintiff

150 East 58th Street 34th Floor

New York, New York 10155

(212) 603-9100

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

TO:

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

DIOCESE OF BUFFALO

795 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14203

DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

6914 Chestnut Ridge Road Lockport, NY 14094

OBLATES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

1555, 2043 Parkside Blvd. Toledo, OH 43607

This is a copy of a pleading filed electronically pursuant to New York State court rules (22 NYCRR §202.5-b(d)(3)(i)) which, at the time of its printout from the court system's electronic website, had not yet been reviewed and approved by the County Clerk. Because court rules (22 NYCRR §202.5[d]) authorize the County Clerk to reject filings for various reasons, readers should be aware that documents bearing this legend may not have been accepted for filing by the County Clerk. 2 of 20

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ERIEX	Index No.:	/1
ANTHONY SCIOLINO		
Plaintiff, -against -	VERIFIED COMPLAINT	
DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES and DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL,		

Defendant(s).

Plaintiff(s), above named, complaining of the defendants, by MERSON LAW,

PLLC., respectfully allege(s):

NATURE OF THE CLAIM

- 1. This is a case of plaintiff Anthony Sciolino who was sexually abused as a child by Father Lehr Barkenquest ("Barkenquest") at and of St. Fransis De Sales Catholic High School and/or De Sales Catholic School (collectively referred to herein as "St. Francis"), Oblates of St. Francis De Sales ("Oblates") and Diocese of Buffalo ("Diocese").
- 2. Barkenquest was an agent, servant and/or employee of St. Francis, the Diocese and Oblates. Barkenquest was known among the community and the children as a sexual predator.
- 3. Despite the Diocese, Oblates and/or St. Francis's knowledge that Barkenquest sexually abused children and/or had the propensity to sexually abuse children, the Diocese,

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

Oblates and/or St. Francis allowed the Barkenquest unfettered access to children, including on Defendants' premises and property without supervision.

- In approximately 1971 and continuing until 1975, Barkenquest, while under the scope 4. of employment with the Diocese, Oblates and/or St. Francis and while acting on behalf of the Diocese, Oblates and/or St. Francis, would sexually abuse Plaintiff, then approximately between thirteen and sixteen years old, by forcing Plaintiff into a room, molesting and fondling him, force him to touch Barkenquest, and otherwise sexually abuse him.
- The sexual abuse occurred in St. Francis and other venues. 5.
- 6. Plaintiff brings this lawsuit to recover for the emotional and physical suffering he endured because of the negligence of the Diocese of Buffalo, Oblates of St. Francis De Sales and/or St Francis De Sales Catholic High School and to make sure no other child is forced to suffer the abuse and physical and mental trauma she felt and continues to feel.

PARTIES

- At all times herein mentioned defendant DIOCESE OF BUFFALO was a not for 7. profit corporation incorporated in the state of New York and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York.
- At all times herein mentioned, defendant DIOCESE OF BUFFALO was located at 8. 795 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14203...
- 9. At all times herein mentioned, Barkenquest was an agent, servant and/or employee operating under the direction and control of defendant DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, and its agents, servants and/or employees.

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

- At all times herein mentioned defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES was a not for profit forein corporation.
- At all times herein mentioned, defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES 11. was located at 1555. 2403 Parkside Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43607.
- At all times herein mentioned, Barkenquest was an agent, servant and/or employee 12. operating under the direction and control of defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS **DE SALES**, and its agents, servants and/or employees.
- At all times herein mentioned DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL was a not for profit corporation incorporated in the state of New York and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York.
- At all times herein mentioned, defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL was located at 6914 Chestnut Ridge Road, Lockport, New York 14094.
- At all times herein mentioned, Barkenquest was an agent, servant and/or employee operating under the direction and control of defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC **SCHOOL**, and its agents, servants and/or employees.
- At all times herein mentioned, defendants DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL and OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES were agents, servants, employees and/or alter egos of each other.
- 17. At all times herein mentioned, defendants DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL and OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES together, in concert operated and controlled St. Francis De Sales Catholic High School located at 6914 Chestnut Ridge Road, Lockport, New York 14904.

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

FACTS OF THE CASE

- Defendants DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES and/or DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL's negligence and recklessness caused Barkenquest to have access to children, including on Diocese, Oblates and/or St. Francis property without proper supervision, despite their knowledge that Barkenquest sexually abused children and/or had the propensity to sexually abuse children and therefore are responsible for the injuries that Plaintiff incurred because but for Defendants DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES and/or DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL's negligence, Plaintiff would not have suffered the mental and physical anguish inflicted by Barkenquest. Defendants' gross negligence, reckless, wanton, and/or willful conduct supports punitive liability.
- Barkenquest sexually assaulted Plaintiff and other children of St. Francis in Lockport, 19. New York. Nonetheless, defendant **DIOCESE OF BUFFALO**, defendant **OBLATES** OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES and/or defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL failed to remove Barkenquest from his position or to take any steps to keep the dangerous predator away from children. In fact, the Diocese, Oblates and/or St. Francis continued to allow, encourage and/or permit Barkenquest to have unfettered access to children, on Defendant's premises without proper supervision.
- Barkenquest was the wrestling coach at St. Francis, which was a St. Francis, Oblates 20. and Diocese supervised, controlled and/or sponsored extra-curricular activity in which Plaintiff participated.
- In approximately 1971 and continuing through approximately 1975, Barkenquest would 21. sexually abuse Plaintiff repeatedly.

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

22. During wrestling practice, Barkenquest would molest plaintiff, force him into a room, fondle him, force him to touch Barkenquest and otherwise sexually abuse him.

- 23. Barkenquest would further force Plaintiff to drink alcohol and perfom sexual acts on him.
- Plaintiff informed the principal of St. Francis, Father Nelson, on two separate occasions when the abuse began. Neither Father Nelson nor any other agent, servant or employee of the Diocese, Oblates or St. Francis took any action to stop Barkenquest from sexually abusing plaintiff.
- 25. Barkenquest used the power and authority provided to him by the Diocese, Oblates and/or St Francis to repeatedly sexually abuse Plaintiff all while acting under the scope of employment with the Diocese, Oblates and/or St. Francis.
- 26. As a result of the actions of Barkenquest, Plaintiff felt and continues to feel ashamed and uncomfortable.
- As such, Plaintiff suffered catastrophic and lifelong injuries as a result of defendant 27. DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES and/or defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL's negligence in undertaking a duty, including but not limited to in locis parentis, in failing to protect the children of its parishes and of its community safe from Barkenquest despite the Diocese, Oblates and/or St. Francis having knowledge that Barkenquest abused and/or sexually abused children and/or had the propensity to abuse and/or sexually abuse children, and/or allowing Barkenquest to continue to have his position of authority and power, with unfettered access to children, as well as the diocese failed to adequately supervise Barkenguest.

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE AS TO THE DIOCESE OF BUFFALO

- 28. Plaintiffs repeat, reiterate and reallege each and every allegation contained in those paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 27. inclusive, with the same force and effect as if hereinafter set forth at length.
- 29. At all times mentioned herein, defendant DIOCESE OF BUFFALO owed a duty of care, including but not limited to in locis parentis, to keep the children and students of its school safe from the abuse and/or sexual abuse by its agents, servants and or employees under its supervision and control, including on company premises, that ultimately befell the plaintiff, and they had a duty to supervise Barkenquest.
- 30. At all times mentioned herein, defendant DIOCESE OF BUFFALO and/or its agents, servants and/or employees breached the above-stated duty in a negligent, reckless, willful and wanton manner, and caused Plaintiff to be sexually assaulted.
- As a result of the negligence of defendant **DIOCESE OF BUFFALO** and/or its agents, servants and/or employees, plaintiff was caused serious personal injuries, emotional distress, mental pain and suffering, mental anguish and/or physical manifestations thereof, and other losses, all of which have not as of yet been ascertained.
- 32. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 33. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would 34. otherwise have jurisdiction.

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

35. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE AS TO OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

- 36. Plaintiffs repeat, reiterate and reallege each and every allegation contained in those paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 35, inclusive, with the same force and effect as if hereinafter set forth at length.
- At all times mentioned herein, defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES owed a duty of care, including but not limited to in locis parentis, to keep the children and students of its school safe from the abuse and/or sexual abuse by its agents, servants and or employees under its supervision and control, including on company premises, that ultimately befell the plaintiff, and they had a duty to supervise Barkenquest.
- 38. At all times mentioned herein, defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES and/or its agents, servants and/or employees breached the above-stated duty in a negligent, reckless, willful and wanton manner, and caused Plaintiff to be sexually assaulted.
- As a result of the negligence of defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES and/or its agents, servants and/or employees, plaintiff was caused serious personal injuries, emotional distress, mental pain and suffering, mental anguish and/or physical manifestations thereof, and other losses, all of which have not as of yet been ascertained.
- By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

41. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.

- The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would 42. otherwise have jurisdiction.
- 43. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE AS TO DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

- Plaintiffs repeat, reiterate and reallege each and every allegation contained in those 44. paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 43. inclusive, with the same force and effect as if hereinafter set forth at length.
- At all times mentioned herein, defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL owed a duty of care, including but not limited to in locis parentis, to keep the children and students of its school safe from the abuse and/or sexual abuse by its agents, servants and or employees under its supervision and control that ultimately befell the plaintiff, and they had a duty to supervise Barkenquest.
- At all times mentioned herein, defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL and/or 46. its agents, servants and/or employees breached the above-stated duty in a negligent, reckless, willful and wanton manner, and caused Plaintiff to be sexually assaulted.
- As a result of the negligence of defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL and/or 47. its agents, servants and/or employees, plaintiff was caused serious personal injuries, emotional distress, mental pain and suffering, mental anguish and/or physical manifestations thereof, and other losses, all of which have not as of yet been ascertained.

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

48. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.

- 49. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would 50. otherwise have jurisdiction.
- This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

AS AND FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT HIRING, RETENTION AND SUPERVISION AS TO DIOCESE OF BUFFALO

- 52. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in those paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 51., inclusive, with the same force and effect as if hereinafter set forth at length.
- Defendant DIOCESE OF BUFFALO had a duty to supervise and prevent known risks 53. of harm to the children and students of its school by its agents, servants and/or employees.
- Defendant was negligent in hiring, retaining and supervising their personnel, such as 54. Barkenquest, who was careless, unskillful, negligent, reckless and acted in a willful and wanton manner in not possessing the requisite knowledge and skill of school officials and other home and school supervisors who should have properly been supervising the agents, servants and/or employees and church officials to ensure the safety of the children of its school.

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1 RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

> 55. Defendant DIOCESE OF BUFFALO knew or should have known Barkenquest sexually abused and/or had the propensity to sexually abuse children and did nothing to stop it, and failed to supervise Barkenquest.

- 56. As a result of such negligent hiring, supervising and retention, Plaintiff was caused to suffer serious personal injuries, emotional distress, conscious pain and suffering, mental anguish and/or physical manifestations thereof, and other losses, all of which have not as of yet been ascertained.
- 57. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 58. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 59. The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.
- 60. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

AS AND FOR A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT HIRING, RETENTION AND SUPERVISION AS TO OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

- Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in those 61. paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 60., inclusive, with the same force and effect as if hereinafter set forth at length.
- Defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES had a duty to supervise and 62. prevent known risks of harm to the children and students of its school by its agents, servants and/or employees.

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

Defendant was negligent in hiring, retaining and supervising their personnel, such as Barkenquest, who was careless, unskillful, negligent, reckless and acted in a willful and wanton manner in not possessing the requisite knowledge and skill of school officials and other home and school supervisors who should have properly been supervising the agents, servants and/or employees and church officials to ensure the safety of the children of its school.

- 64. Defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES knew or should have known Barkenquest sexually abused and/or had the propensity to sexually abuse children and did nothing to stop it, and failed to supervise Barkenquest.
- As a result of such negligent hiring, supervising and retention, Plaintiff was caused to 65. suffer serious personal injuries, emotional distress, conscious pain and suffering, mental anguish and/or physical manifestations thereof, and other losses, all of which have not as of yet been ascertained.
- By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from 66. defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 67. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 68. The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.
- 69. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

AS AND FOR A SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT HIRING, RETENTION AND SUPERVISION AS TO DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in those 70. paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 69., inclusive, with the same force and effect as if hereinafter set forth at length.

- 71. Defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL had a duty to supervise and prevent known risks of harm to the children and students of its school by its agents, servants and/or employees.
- Defendant was negligent in hiring, retaining and supervising their personnel, such as 72. Barkenquest, who was careless, unskillful, negligent, reckless and acted in a willful and wanton manner in not possessing the requisite knowledge and skill of school officials and other home and school supervisors who should have properly been supervising the agents, servants and/or employees and church officials to ensure the safety of the children of its school.
- Defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL knew or should have known Barkenquest sexually abused and/or had the propensity to sexually abuse children and did nothing to stop it, and failed to supervise Barkenquest.
- As a result of such negligent hiring, supervising and retention, Plaintiff was caused to suffer serious personal injuries, emotional distress, conscious pain and suffering, mental anguish and/or physical manifestations thereof, and other losses, all of which have not as of yet been ascertained.
- 75. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 76. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1 RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

> The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would 77. otherwise have jurisdiction.

78. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

AS AND FOR THE SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS AS TO DIOCESE OF BUFFALO

- Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in those paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 78., inclusive, with the same force and effect as if herein set forth at length.
- 80. Defendant DIOCESE OF BUFFALO and its agents, servants and/or employees, knew or reasonably should have known that the failure to properly advise, supervise and hire Barkenquest, the agent, servant and/or employee who sexually abused Plaintiff, would and did proximately result in physical and emotional distress to Plaintiff.
- 81. Defendant DIOCESE OF BUFFALO and their agents, servants and/or employees knew or reasonably should have known that the sexual abuse and other improper conduct would and did proximately result in physical and emotional distress to Plaintiff.
- 82. Defendant has the power, ability, authority and duty to intervene with and/or stop the improper conduct that resulted in Plaintiff being sexually abused by Barkenquest.
- Despite said knowledge, power and duty, defendant negligently failed to act so as to 83. stop, prevent, and prohibit the improper conduct that resulted in the Barkenquest sexually abusing Plaintiff.
- 84. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.

- 86. The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.
- 87. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

AS AND FOR THE EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS AS TO OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

- 88. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in those paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 87., inclusive, with the same force and effect as if herein set forth at length.
- 89. Defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES and their agents, servants and/or employees, knew or reasonably should have known that the failure to properly advise, supervise and hire Barkenquest, the agent, servant and/or employee who sexually abused Plaintiff, would and did proximately result in physical and emotional distress to Plaintiff.
- 90. Defendant OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES and their agents, servants and/or employees knew or reasonably should have known that the sexual abuse and other improper conduct would and did proximately result in physical and emotional distress to Plaintiff.
- Defendant has the power, ability, authority and duty to intervene with and/or stop the 91. improper conduct that resulted in Plaintiff being sexually abused by Barkenquest.

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

- 92. Despite said knowledge, power and duty, defendant negligently failed to act so as to stop, prevent, and prohibit the improper conduct that resulted in the Barkenquest sexually abusing Plaintiff.
- 93. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 94. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would 95. otherwise have jurisdiction.
- 96. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

AS AND FOR THE NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS AS TO DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

- 97. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in those paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 96., inclusive, with the same force and effect as if herein set forth at length.
- 98. Defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL and their agents, servants and/or employees, knew or reasonably should have known that the failure to properly advise, supervise and hire Barkenquest, the agent, servant and/or employee who sexually abused Plaintiff, would and did proximately result in physical and emotional distress to Plaintiff.
- Defendant DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL and their agents, servants and/or 99. employees knew or reasonably should have known that the sexual abuse and other

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

improper conduct would and did proximately result in physical and emotional distress to Plaintiff.

- 100. Defendant has the power, ability, authority and duty to intervene with and/or stop the improper conduct that resulted in Plaintiff being sexually abused by Barkenquest.
- 101. Despite said knowledge, power and duty, defendant negligently failed to act so as to stop, prevent, and prohibit the improper conduct that resulted in the Barkenquest sexually abusing Plaintiff.
- 102. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 103. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 104. The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.
- 105. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff demands judgement against defendants in such sum as a jury would find fair, adequate and just.

Dated: New York, New York August 14, 2019

MERSON LAW, PLLC

By:

Jordan K. Merson Sarah R. Cantos Attorneys for Plaintiff

150 East 58th Street 34th Floor New York, New York 10155

(212) 603-9100

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK	Index No.:
COUNTY OF ERIE	
*7	

/19

ANTHONY SCIOLINO,

Plaintiff,

ATTORNEY VERIFICATION

-against -

DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, OBLATES OF FRANCIS DE SALES, and DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL,

Defendants.		

JORDAN K. MERSON, an attorney duly admitted to practice in the Courts of New York State, and a member of the firm MERSON LAW, PLLC., attorneys for the plaintiffs in the within action, hereby affirms under penalty of perjury:

That he has read the within complaint and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true to his own knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters he believes it to be true.

That the sources of his information and knowledge are investigations and records in the file.

That the reason this verification is made by affirmant and not by the plaintiff is that the plaintiff is not within the County where the attorney has his office.

Dated: New York, New York August 14, 2019

accepted for filing by the County Clerk.

JORDAN K. MERSON

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/14/2019

INDEX NO. UNASSIGNED

Index No.

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

Year 2019

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ERIE

ANTHONY SCIOLINO,

Plaintiff.

-against -

DIOCESE OF BUFFALO, OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, and DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL,

Defendant(s).

SUMMONS AND VERIFIED COMPLAINT

Merson Law, PLLC.

Attorneys for Plaintiff(s)

Office and Post Office Address, Telephone 150 East 58th Street 34th Fl. New York, New York 10155 (212) 603-9100

To: All Parties

This is a copy of a pleading filed electronically pursuant to New York State court rules (22 NYCRR §202.5-b(d)(3)(i)) which, at the time of its printout from the court system's electronic website, had not yet been reviewed and approved by the County Clerk. Because court rules (22 NYCRR §202.5[d]) authorize the County Clerk to reject filings for various reasons, readers should be aware that documents bearing this legend may not have been accepted for filing by the County Clerk. 20 of 20